Setting up of Transmission line from Sri Lanka

†2190. SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:
DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have taken any decision on the proposal of setting up of transmission line from Sri Lanka to India;

(b) if so, the details thereof and the status of this proposal;

(c) whether the information regarding consumer price of power in Sri Lanka has been obtained before giving consideration to this proposal;

(d) if so, the details of the prices; and

(e) the types of fuel used for power generation in Sri Lanka?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (e) It has been decided to set up a Steering Committee and Task force comprising officials of the Government of India and Government of Sri Lanka to examine the feasibility of the proposal to set up a transmission link between Sri Lanka and India.

Hydro Electricity Generation Capacity

†2191. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that hydro-electricity generation capacity in the country is 1,50,000 MW out of which only 33,600 MW is likely to be utilized;

(b) if not, the details thereof;

(c) whether Government have formulated any policy regarding the partnership of private sector for utilization of the remaining capacity;

(d) if so, the details of this policy together with the generation capacity of the projects in respect of which construction work has been entrusted to the private sector on the basis of this policy; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(e) the estimated average per unit tariff of electricity in these projects of private sector and how it can be compared with the average per unit tariff of the projects of National Hydro Power Corporation?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) As per the re-asessment studies completed by the Central Electricity Authority (CEA) in 1987, the hydro electric potential of the country in terms of installed capacity has been estimated to be about 1,48,700 MW, out of which a capacity of 30,164 MW (20.3%) has already been developed and 13,616 MW (9.2%) of capacity is under development. In addition, Pumped Storage Schemes aggregating to 3,659 MW are under operation and three schemes aggregating to 2,150 MW are under construction.

(c) and (d) The policy to encourage greater participation of private sector in power generation was announced in 1991. The Government of India announced a Policy on hydro power development in August, 1998 which lays emphasis on increasing private investment in the power sector through Independent Power Producers (IPPs) and joint ventures. The Electricity Act, 2003 has created conducive environment for investments in all segments of the industry both for public sector and private sector by removing barriers to entry. The National Electricity Policy (February, 2005) also lays emphasis on private sector participation in generation including hydro generation.

Water including water power being a state subject, the State Government have their own policies on hydro power development including encouraging paticipation of private sector.

At present, seven schemes with an installed capacity of 2,191 MW are under construction in the private sector. Further, 43 schemes (14,146MW) have been allocated by the States for implementation in the private sector.

(e) The cost of power generation from hydro projects is site specific depending upon the geology and hydrology, the type of project-run-of-the river or storage—and complexities involved in the construction of the project like tunneling, underground power house etc. The tariffs of hydroelectric projects therefore, cannot be compared.